

# ***Machine Learning and Data Mining for Improved Intelligent Data Understanding of High Dimensional Earth Science Data***

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# Challenge 1: Multiple Class and Highly Skewed Class Distribution

- For example: the smallest class in MODIS data set is 0.8% of the labeled dataset
- Minority classes are difficult to handle for classifiers
- A large number of classes is difficult to handle for state of the art data mining methods

# Reducing Multiclass to Binary via Class Elimination

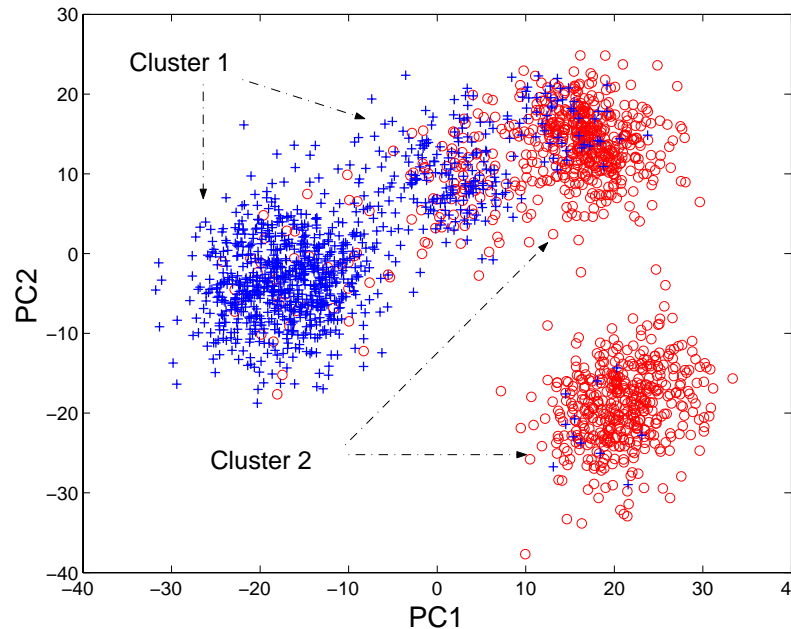
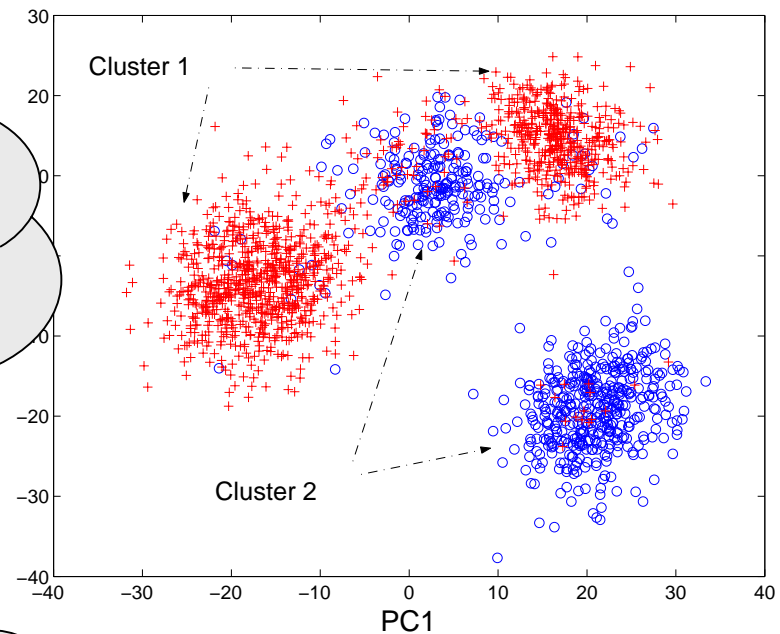
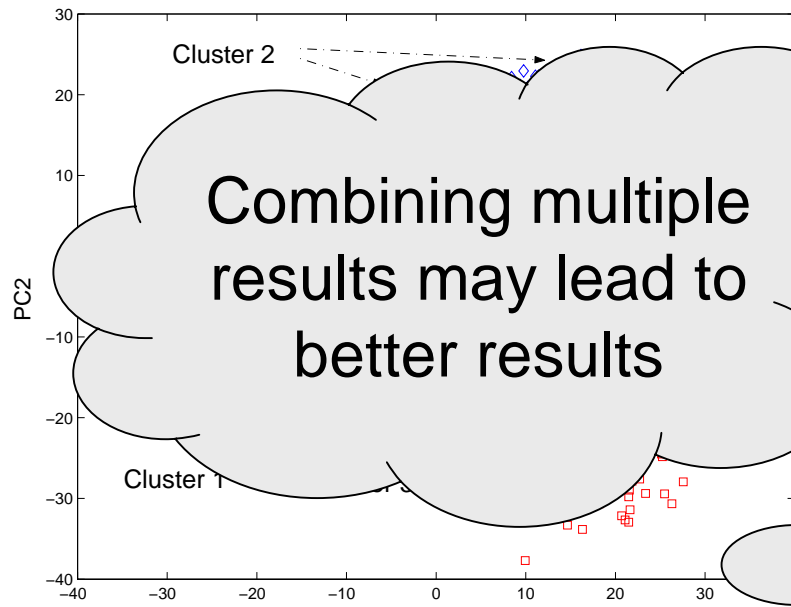
Hribar, Fern, and Brodley, submitted to the *Twenty-First International Conference on Machine Learning*

- Step 1: Reduce multiclass to binary via class elimination
- Step 2: Apply a binary classifier trained on just those two classes
- Implementation: decision trees for elimination, SVM for binary
- Results:
  - 5-8% improvement in overall accuracy
  - Large improvements in minority class accuracy

## **Challenge 2: Forming Clusters of High-Dimensional Data**

- Difficult for current algorithms
- Projection techniques make assumptions about the data

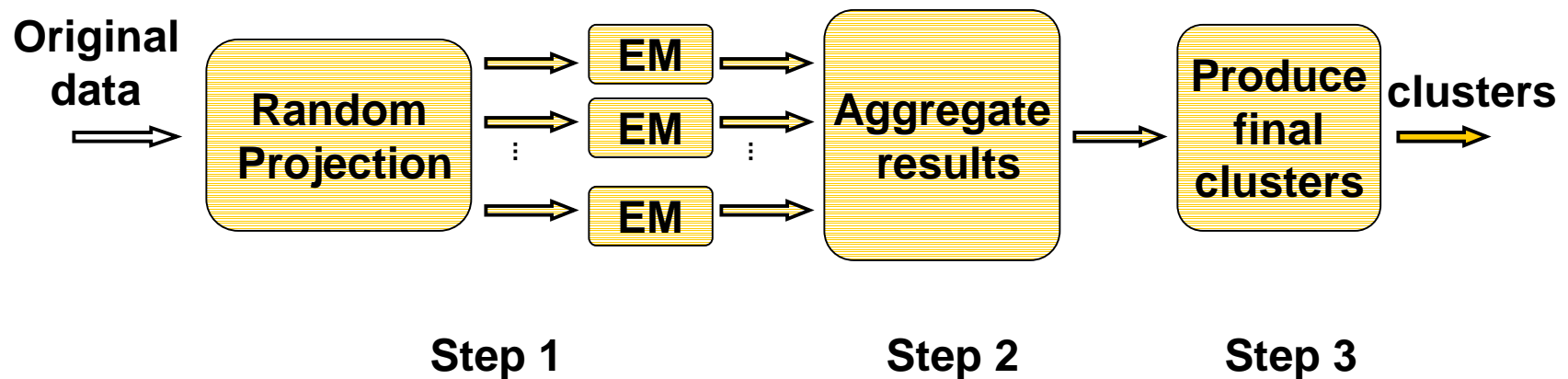
# Examples of RP Clustering Results



Different runs reveal  
different structure

# Random Projection for High Dimensional Data Clustering: A Cluster Ensemble Approach,

Fern and Brodley, *Proceedings of the Twentieth International Conference on Machine Learning*, 2003

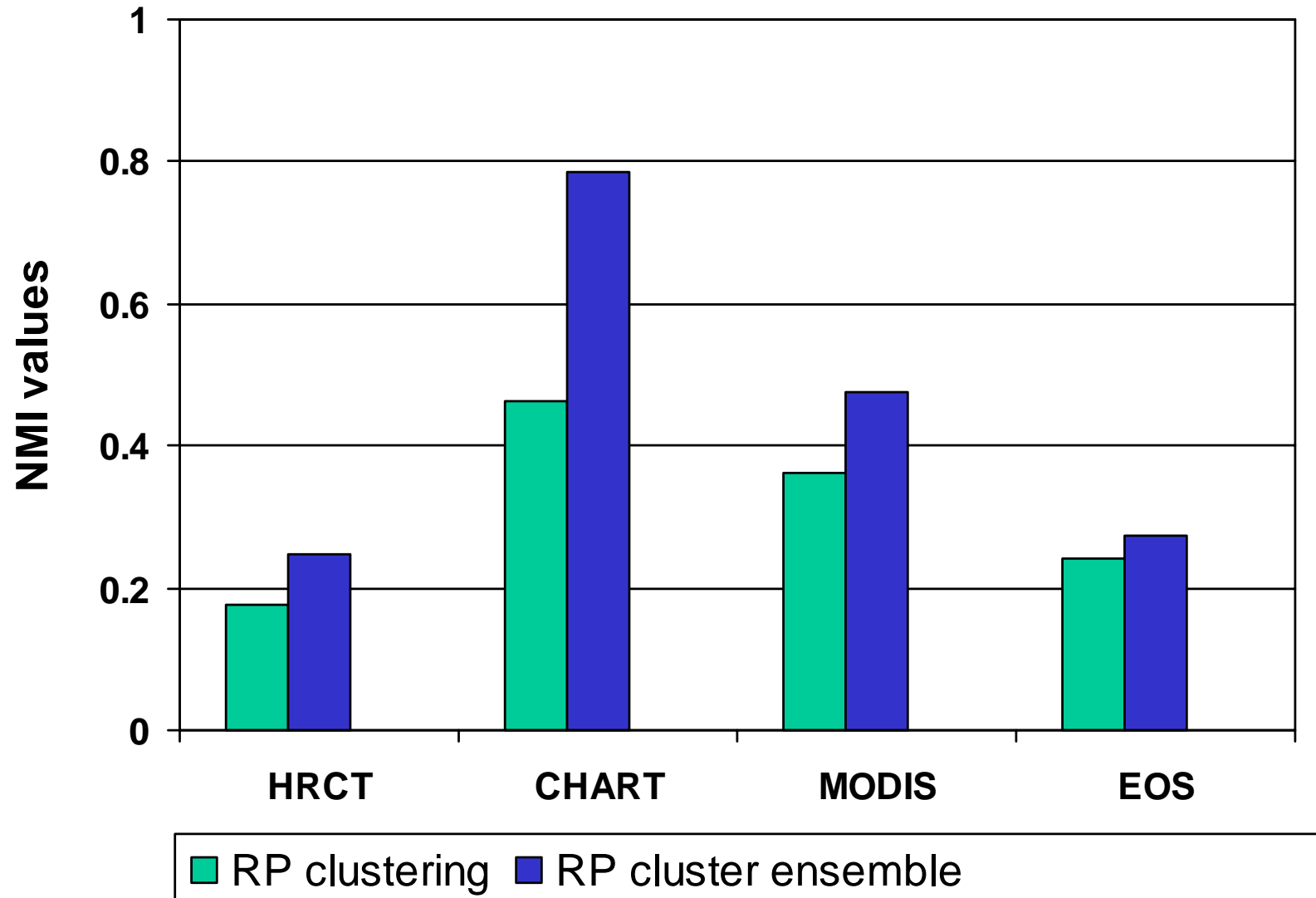


Step 1. Generate multiple RP clustering results

Step 2. Aggregate the results

Step 3. Produce final clusters

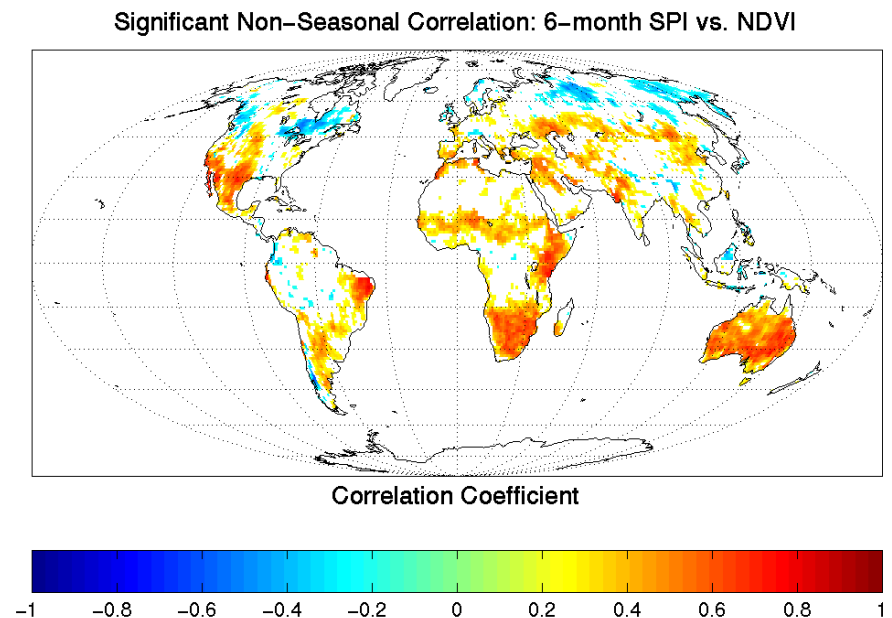
# Experimental Results



# Application of Data Mining to Earth Science Data Sets

## Two main goals

1. Implementation and evaluation of tools for *intelligent understanding of time series image data*
2. Discovery of *climate-ecosystem interactions* in support of NASA's Earth Science Enterprise

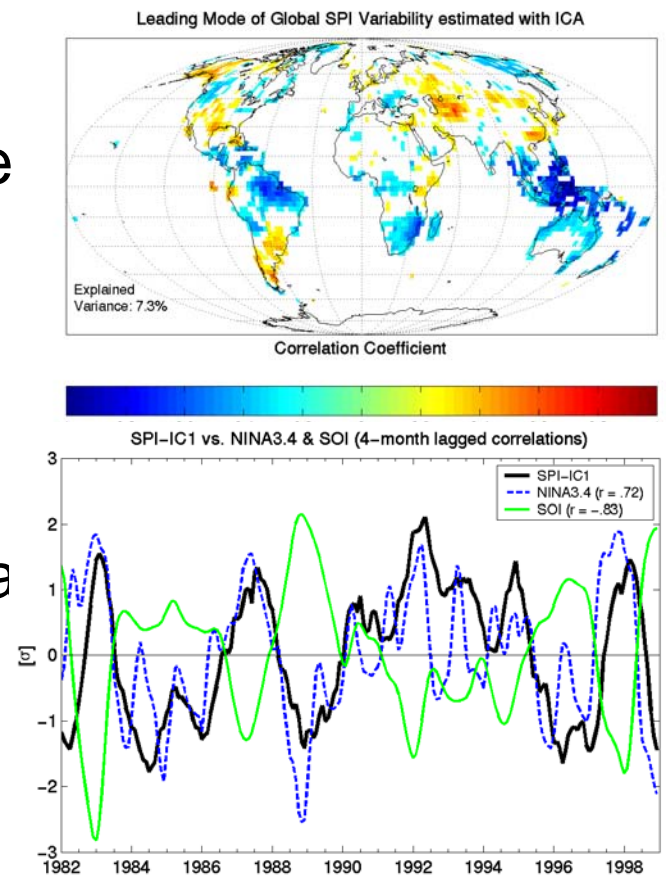




# Application of Data Mining to Earth Science Data Sets

## Three main activities

1. Non-linear decomposition of time series NDVI and SST images
2. Analysis of non-seasonal co-variability in precipitation and vegetation dynamics
3. Analysis of coupled non-seasonal SST, precipitation, and NDVI anomalies

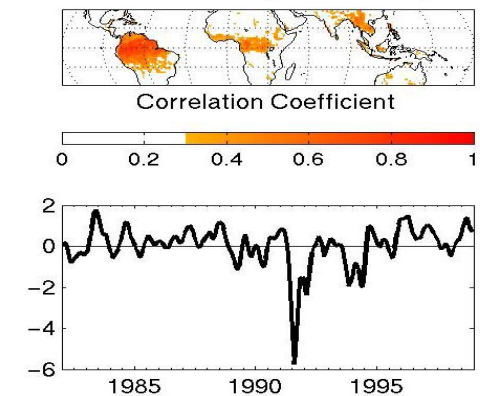


# Non-Linear Decomposition of Time Series NDVI and SST Images

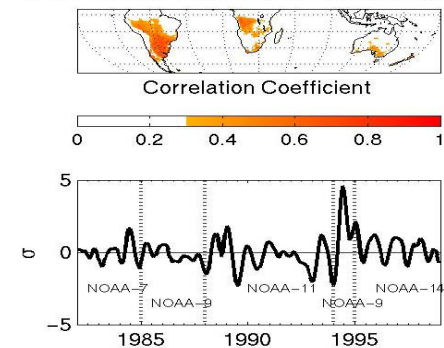
Lotsch et al., 2003. *IEEE Trans. on Geosci. and Rem. Sens.*, 41(12): 2938-2942

- Analysis of spatio-temporal variance
  - Conventionally use linear methods
- For this work: ICA
  - NDVI and SST image time series
- Results reveal additional information not identified by linear methods
  - Artifacts in NDVI data sets
  - Decoupled “modes” of variation in SST related to ENSO and PDO

NDVI "Aerosol" Independent Component



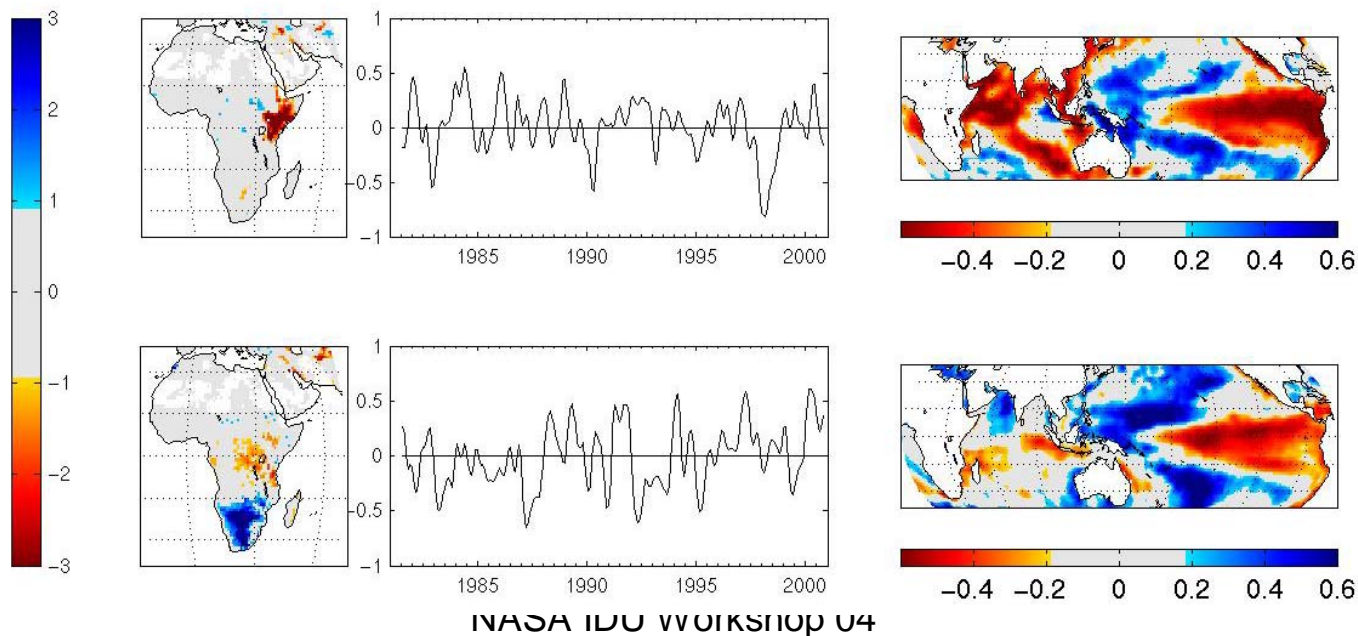
NDVI "Orbital Decay" Independent Component



# Covariability in Non-Seasonal Precipitation & Ecosystem Dynamics

Lotsch et al. 2003. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 30(14), 1774  
doi: 10.1029/2003GL01756

- Remove seasonal variation
  - Dominates variance
- Investigate signature of climate forcing at interannual time scales
- Canonical Correlation Analysis
  - NDVI and SPI
- Analysis reveals regional patterns of NDVI-SPI variation associated with specific forcing mechanisms

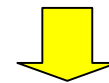


# Analysis of Coupled SST, Precipitation, & NDVI Anomalies

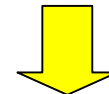
Lotsch et al, 2004, in prep for *Bull. Am. Met Soc.*

- Dramatic reduction in plant growth linked to **synchronous patterns** of SST fluctuations and geographically extensive precipitation anomalies in Northern Hemisphere mid-latitudes during 1998-2002

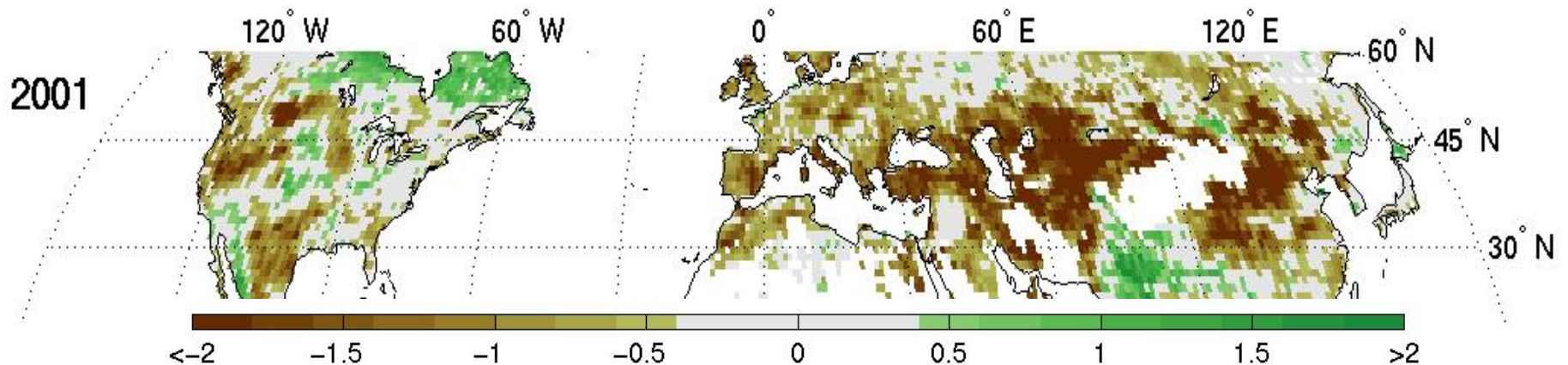
$\Delta$ SST Pacific +  
Atlantic Indo-Pacific



NH Drought



Plant Photosynthesis



# Summary and Expected Impact on NASA (Supervised and Unsupervised Research)

- Adaptation of innovative new data mining methods to space-time data sets for climate and geophysical data.
  - Provides Earth Science Enterprise activities with a new method for examining and understanding large volume, high dimensional remote sensing and geophysical datasets
- Development of new data mining methods for handling multiple classes, minority classes and missing data
  - provides better methods for generating accurate, complete, global land cover maps.

# Research Plans

- Apply nonlinear CCA to Earth science data sets, in preparation for KDD 04
- Apply class elimination ideas to land cover classification, in preparation for the *Journal of Machine Learning Research*
- Complete journal article on ensemble methods for submission to *Journal of Machine Learning Research*

# Personnel

- Carla Brodley, Co-PI
- Mark Friedl, Co-PI
- Xiaoli Z. Fern, Ph.D. student, Purdue Univ.
- Nate Hribar, M.S. student, Purdue Univ.
- Alex Lotsch, Ph.D. student, Boston Univ.
- Su-Yin Tan M.A. student, Boston Univ.

# References

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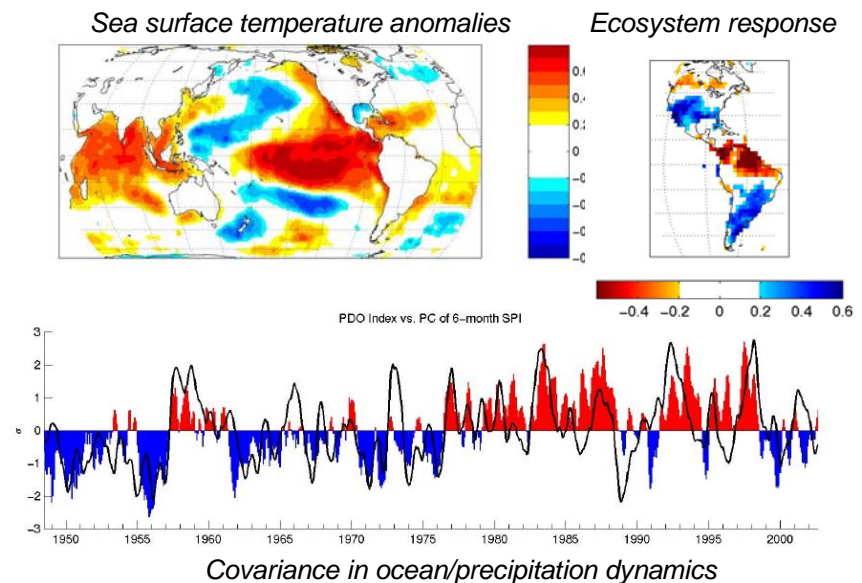
Carla Brodley/Purdue and Mark Friedl/Boston University

**Goal:** Knowledge discovery for large multivariate Earth science datasets.

**Objectives:** Develop computationally efficient machine learning algorithms for intelligent data understanding for large multivariate Earth science datasets.

## Key Innovations:

- Clustering ensembles for unsupervised learning of high-dimensional data
- Solving the unbalanced multiclass learning problem
- Application of non-linear decomposition methods to time series image data
- Discovery of joint climate ecosystem co-variability via data mining



## NASA Relevance:

- NASA Earth science enterprise requires efficient methods for knowledge discovery in global multivariate time series data.
- Extension to astrophysics and homeland security.

## Accomplishments to date:

- 3 refereed journal papers, 2 refereed conference papers, 3 conference abstracts, 3 papers in prep.

## Schedule:

- FY01: Data set compilation; application of ICA to NDVI and sea surface temp. time series; developed lazy decision tree and class elimination algorithms.
- FY02: Analysis of climate ecosystem co-variability; developed cluster ensemble framework
- FY03: Analysis of ocean-atmosphere ecosystem connections; refinement of cluster ensemble, class elimination algorithms